



LONG TERM CARE

NEWSLETTER

Indiana State Department of Health

**ISDH Long Term Care
Newsletter Issue # 08-14
May 30, 2008**

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- Univ of Indianapolis Selected to Lead Pressure Ulcer Initiative
- Painting of Concrete Floors



*State Health Commissioner
Judy Monroe, M.D. writes
monthly prescriptions for
Indiana that address
important health issues.*

June 2008: Prevent Summer Injuries

- **Wear a bike helmet**
- **Be Mindful When Mowing**
- **Supervise All Swimming Activities**

[Click here to learn more.](#)

ISDH Web Update

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is pleased to announce a new look for its Web site. The new site will improve access to information and add new features. The update went live on May 29.

The ISDH Web site has grown significantly in recent years. The ISDH has been very active in putting information online and has in fact been recognized for the amount and quality of online information that we provide. We recognize that it is a very large site with lots of information. The upgrade allowed the ISDH to reduce some of the clutter and improve overall organization. The upgrade includes new program pages that are consistently organized between programs and are better organized to accommodate the amount of information included.

The long term care pages are accessed the same as before. From the ISDH home page, select the "Health Facility Licensing" link in the left column and then select "Long Term Care / Nursing Homes". The Health Care Facility Consumer Reports may be accessed through the individual program pages or via the "Consumer Reports" link located on the left column of the ISDH home page.

As with any upgrade of this magnitude, there are a few bugs to work out. For instance, the links to a few pages became inactive in the transition. We expect to have those links restored in the next few days.

The ISDH Web site may be accessed at www.in.gov/isdh.

University of Indianapolis to Lead Pressure Ulcer Initiative

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is pleased to announce the selection of the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging and Community to lead a state initiative to decrease the incidence of pressure ulcers in long term care facilities. The University of Indianapolis is a private institution of higher education. The Center for Aging and Community researches, educates, consults, and collaborates to raise awareness, promote best practices, and disseminate information concerning issues important to older adults. The Center is committed to extensive community involvement, creating partnerships, and building capacity in organizations and systems dedicated to older adults.

The initiative is scheduled to begin July 1, 2008 pending completion of a contract with the University of Indianapolis. Jennifer Bachman, MEd, Senior Projects Director, Center for Aging and Community, will oversee the initiative. The initiative will be funded by the ISDH.

The initiative will include numerous partners to include Health Care Excel, Indiana Patient Safety Center, United Senior Action, Hoosier Owners and Providers for the Elderly, Indiana Association of Homes and Services for the Aged, Indiana Health Care Association, and Indiana Hospital Association. The initiative will have many components. These components will include:

- Formation of an advisory panel on pressure ulcers
- Development of a consumer brochure on pressure ulcers
- Development of a tool kit on pressure ulcers for facilities
- Development of online training modules that will be available to all facilities through the ISDH Learning Management System
- Providing a community-based outreach program consisting of conference calls by patient advocates with residents and families
- Providing hands-on, highly interactive education and training for approximately 100 facilities who participate in the initiative
- Providing regional training activities across the state

Painting of Concrete Floors

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is aware that some facilities have been cited recently by federal Life Safety Code surveyors for having the concrete floors in liquid oxygen transferring rooms painted with latex paint. The ISDH reviewed those findings with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The ISDH has received confirmation from CMS that there is no problem with the concrete being painted with latex paint. Facilities which have painted the floors in the liquid oxygen transferring rooms with latex paint therefore do not have to scrape it off to comply with the federal regulations. Facilities need to be able to provide a surveyor, state or federal, with documentation of the type of paint used.

If you have questions about this issue, please contact our Life Safety Code Survey Supervisor, Rick Powers, at (317)

233-7471, or email at Rpowers@isdh.in.gov.



That is all for this week. Best wishes for the coming week.

Terry Whitson
Assistant Commissioner
Indiana State Department of Health